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LOS ANGELES

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OUR CONTRIBUTORS' PAGE

The Editor, in *Nature Comes to Herself,* discusses the status of the external world from the personalistic point of view. In the presentation the contribution becomes apparent which the self makes to knowledge by reason of the inherent activity of the mind in all knowing.

This Spring will complete thirty semi-annual forums conducted under the auspices of The School of Philosophy, at The University of Southern California. From time to time forum lectures have appeared in *The Personalist.* Now it is the practice to publish all of them. The general theme of the last series was "The Idea of Progress and the Future of Man." The three following articles on Progress were delivered as forum lectures. Others will appear in the next issue.

Dr. Wilbur Long, Professor of Philosophy at The University of Southern California investigated the possibility of progress in *Progress: Apparent or Real?* He concluded that optimism should be expected of all good Americans but tempered, at the same time, "with sobriety and the recognition that it is a thing of faith alone."

In *Progress as Societal Self-Direction,* **Professor Martin H. Neumeyer,** Department of Sociology, at The University of Southern California, studied social progress. Are there inexorable laws that direct society or is society self-directive? To the extent that man wishes to move ahead, he must do much of the planning.

"Does ethical and religious development disclose more and larger possibilities for the maturing of persons by means of the unity of moral independence and religious dependence," summarizes the problem considered by **Professor Paul R. Helsel,** University of Southern California, in *Progress as Ethical and Religious Development."*

Professor Harry Slochower, Department of German, Brooklyn College, New York, in *Hesitancies in Santayana's Philosophy,* believes that fuller understanding of Santayana's cultural background will shed light upon what appears as puzzling contradictions. **Dr. Slochower** shows that Santayana's background was comprised of a blend of England which he did not understand, of America which he never liked and of a heavy admixture of the Old World, particularly Spanish.

Dr. Mary Brent Whiteside, New Orleans, is optimistic about *The Creative Arts in the Post-War World.* People who love created beauty are possessed of a deathless vitality and out of each tragedy a new art will emerge.